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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part IV)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ihor V. HUMENNY (Ukraine)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 116 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/51/750 and Add.1 and 2 and A/51/848.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 72nd and 74th meetings, on 8 and 12 September 1997. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.72 and 74).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa (A/C.5/50/17 and A/C.5/51/37 and Add.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/7/Add.9).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DECISION A/C.5/51/L.86

4. At the 74th meeting, on 12 September, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft decision entitled "Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa" (A/C.5/51/L.86), on the basis of informal consultations.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the United States of America as well as by the Controller (see A/C.5/51/SR.74).

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6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/51/L.86 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. A statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of Cuba (see A/C.5/51/SR.74).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa

The General Assembly, having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

(a) Authorizes the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps to settle all outstanding claims on the construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa taking into account the interests of the Organization;

(b) Also authorizes the Secretary-General to make final payments on the construction project at Addis Ababa from the construction-in-progress account;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to issue a full report on the construction at Addis Ababa to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, including, inter alia, relevant information concerning any internal or external audits conducted with regard to the construction project.

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[1] A/C.5/50/17 and A/C.5/51/37 and Add.1.

[2] A/51/7/Add.9.